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Come out for Founder's Day Weekend Events Honoring Harriet Tubman August 2 - 3, 2013

For Immediate Release- Auburn, NY (7/24/13): 2013 marks the 100th year since Harriet Tubman's death, this anniversary is being celebrated both nationally and internationally. Auburn and Cayuga County residents were fortunate to have Harriet in their midst for the last 50 years of her life. After years of guiding many people to safety and freedom and working as a nurse and spy during the Civil War, Harriet settled in Auburn near the Seward Family, established a home for aged former slaves, and involved herself in the Women's Rights Movement. Her selflessness made her an inspiration and role model for people all over the world. The Harriet Tubman Home in Auburn is a lasting tribute to her bravery, determination and concern for others, and works to educate people to preserve her legacy.

Auburn joins ranks with other sites in commemorating Tubman as the feature of this year's Founder's Day event. Connie Reilley, Director of the Downtown Auburn BID and event coordinator shared, "Harriet Tubman's world-wide legacy is demonstrated by her actions, proving that one person can indeed make a huge positive difference in many peoples' lives. Harriet's quiet, steel determination in all of her earnest deeds sets the bar high for all of us. Auburn is proud to be Harriet's hometown for the last 50 years of her life. We honor her memory and strive to rise to her example to, "be kind to one another."

Multiple Founder's Day events are being hosted at numerous locations throughout the City. Below is a summary schedule with descriptions:

August 2 & 3:

GLORY

Time: 8/2: 1PM & 8PM, 8/3: 8PM

Location: Auburn Public Theater, 8 Exchange Street @ Genesee Street

Details: Glory is a celebration of the **Civil War heroes** from the **all-black 54th Regiment** of the **Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry**, headed by **Col. Robert Gould Shaw**, the son of an influential abolitionist. The 54th acquitted themselves valiantly at Fort Wagner, SC, charging a fortification manned by some 1,000 Confederates. The film won a **Best Supporting Actor Oscar** for co-star **Denzel Washington**, and additional statuettes for **Best Cinematography** and **Sound Recording**. After the Friday night film local historian, Tony Gero, will discuss U.S. Colored Troops regiments and separating Hollywood's interpretation from the reality of war. Advance tickets \$5, at the door \$6. **315.253-6669**

August 3:

10AM: 2nd Annual Founder's Fun Run for children ages 4 – 10, with prizes & refreshments, at Seymour Public Library. Sponsored by East Hill Medical Inc. & Neighborhood House

11AM: St. Alphonsus Student Choir sings the National Anthem on steps of City Hall

11:05AM: Welcome by Mayor Mike Quill followed by introduction of Joseph H. Holland, J.D. Harvard Law, Harlem-based attorney, civic leader, All-American football player, playwright and son of Jerome H. "Brud" Holland. Joseph is an Auburn native who will speak on the steps of City Hall about how the legacy of Harriet Tubman helped shape his life, and the life of his father.

11AM -3PM: "Cushing's Battery" Civil War re-enactors will host an encampment at Seward Park, adjacent to Seward House Museum.

Noon: Tug of War between City and County employees on the south lawn of City Hall, supervised by Honorable Judge Thomas Leone.

Noon: Live music by Soft Spoken performed in the parking lot across from City Hall, food and artists/craft vendors, kid's activities & more. Rain location is ground level of the Parking Garage. There will also be costumed student presentations at the Seward House Museum.

Noon – 3PM: Kid's Zone, inflatables, bounce house and games by Reva Rollerdrome.

Noon – 3PM: SCAT Van shuttle bus will provide transportation to and from the Harriet Tubman Home, leaving from behind City Hall.

Noon – 3PM: The Tubman Home will host a strawberry social, sponsored by the Harriet Tubman Home, Inc., Auburn Downtown BID & Harriet Tubman Boosters. Led visitors tours of the property will be conducted.

1 – 3PM: Book signing by Joseph H. Holland at Downtown Books & Coffee, 66 Genesee Street Meet the author of "From Harlem with Love," and Holland is also the playwright of the critically acclaimed play, "Cast Me Down" and the true-to-life drama, "Homegrown." He's also created "Holistic Hardware: Tools that Build Lives" book, DVD, and series of workshops that foster life-skills among the homeless.

3PM: Performance at Seward House Museum of "Her Mind Stayed on Freedom: Moments in the Life of Harriet Tubman," by Dr. David Anderson and the AKWAABA Heritage Associates of Rochester, NY depicting Harriet's work as a spy, nurse, conductor of the Underground Railroad, and her life in Auburn establishing the Home for the Aged at her property on South Street.

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